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APPROVED BY AF - AMB ROSS

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AF/ W - MR AGGREY (SUBS)

AF/ C - MR PARKER (SUBS)

AF/ N - MR ODELL (SUBS)

AF/ S - MR LINEHAN (SUBS)

AF/ EPS - MR STOKES (SUBS)

AF/ RA - MR WALKER (SUBS)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050636

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR: XA

SUBJECT: AF ROUNDUP

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY NEWSOM

1. UGANDA (CONFIDENTIAL)

AS RESULT OF WHAT KAMPALA COUNTRY TEAM CONSIDERS
HEIGHTENED SECURITY THREAT, ESPECIALLY FROM ARAB TERRORISTS,
IT PROPOSED POST BE CLOSED BY JUNE 30. BUREAU DOES NOT
FAVOR THIS MEASURE . WE ARE,
HOWEVER, WORKING TOWARD QUICKLY REDUCING OUR OFFICIAL
PRESENCE UGANDA TO ESSENTIAL MINIMUM AND FURTHER STRENGTH-
ENING PROTECTION OUR PERSONNEL AND INSTALLATIONS. REGIONAL
SECURITY SUPERVISOR HAS SPENT FIVE DAYS IN KAMPALA AND
MADE SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING PROTECTIVE
SECURITY, ALL OF WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED. AID WITHDRAWAL
IS BEING ACCELERATED WHERE POSSIBLE. ONE EMBASSY AND ONE
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USIS OFFICER WILL DEPART AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AND NOT BE REPLACED. HOUSING OF REMAINING EMPLOYEES WILL BE CONSOLIDATED INTO WHAT IS CONSIDERED SAFEST AREA OF KAMPALA. TEAM OF SEABEES HAS BEEN DISPATCHED TO INSTALL ADDITIONAL SECURITY DEVICES AND ONE MORE MARINE GUARD ASSIGNED TO POST, AS REQUESTED.

POST BELIEVES EVACUATION OF DEPENDENTS NOT WARRANTED BUT HAS SUGGESTED
REMAINING USIS OFFICER BE WITHDRAWN BY

JUNE 30. (IAA NOT INCLINED SUPPORT LATTER MOVE, HOWEVER.)
WE EXPECT HAVE NO MORE THAN 12 CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES AT POST BY JULY 1, PLUS SIX MARINES, MINIMUM NUMBER WE AND EMBASSY CONSIDER NECESSARY TO FUNCTION. A FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTOR IS ARRIVING IN KAMPALA THIS WEEK TO MAKE LIMITED EVALUATION OF SITUATION, AS IS AF/ E DIRECTOR COOTE.

INTERNALLY, THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CHANGE IN SLOWLY DETERIORATING UGANDA SCENE. OVER WEEKEND, GENERAL AMIN INSTRUCTED ALL MEMBERS ARMED FORCES TO RETURN TO THEIR BARRACKS BECAUSE HE HAD LEARNED OF IMPENDING INVASION. UGANDA SEEMS HEADED FOR ANOTHER CONFRONTATION WITH TANZANIA AS RESULT OF DETENTION BY TANZANIAN AUTHORITIES OF 48 UGANDANS WORKING FOR EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY. RECENT ARTICLE IN BRITISH PRESS PROMPTED UGANDAN MILITARY SPOKESMAN TO BROADLY HINT THAT GOU MAY TAKE FURTHER ACTIONS AGAINST UK NATIONALS AND COMPANIES IF SUCH QUOTE HOSTILE PROPAGANDA UNQUOTE NOT CURTAILED. NOTHING NEW TO REPORT REGARDING AMBASSADOR MELADY'S RETURN TO POST.

2. GHANA (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

AMBASSADOR AMONOO HAS GIVEN WORLD BANK TEXT OF GHANA GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO CREDITORS' DEBT RESCHEDULING PROPOSAL. AMBASSADOR HADSEL AND HIS WESTERN COLLEAGUES ARE TO RECEIVE TEXT MARCH 20 IN ACCRA. FROM DESCRIPTIONS ELICITED FROM AMONOO AND BANK OFFICIALS, IT APPEARS GHANAIANS HAVE ACCEPTED CREDITORS' PROPOSAL AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AND ARE PREPARED NEGOTIATE WITH CREDITORS AS A GROUP. GHANAIANS HAVE PROPOSED THERE BE NO INTEREST DURING MORATORIUM PERIOD. THEY ALSO HAVE SAID BOTH FIVE-YEAR MORATORIUM AND FIFTEEN- YEAR REPAYMENT PERIODS SHOULD
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BE LONGER, WITH EXACT PERIODS TO BE NEGOTIATED. GHANAIANS

REPORTEDLY HAVE INSISTED THAT THE REPUDIATED DEBTS BE EXCLUDED FROM RESCHEDULING, ALTHOUGH THEY REMAIN WILLING TO HAVE THEIR DISPUTE WITH FOUR BRITISH FIRMS ARBITRATED.

3. MOROCCO (CONFIDENTIAL)

PRESIDENT SIGNED LETTER TO KING HASSAN. SECRETARY AVAILABLE MAR 26 OR MARCH 29 FOR MEETING AND LUNCHEON WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA.

4. SUDAN (CONFIDENTIAL)

DATE OF TRIAL OF BLACK SEPTEMBER TERRORISTS IN SUDAN IS NOW EXPECTED TO BE SET BY NO LATER THAN MARCH 24. WE HAVE INDICATIONS THEY WILL BE TRIED IN CIVIL COURT RATHER THAN MILITARY TRIBUNAL. GOS IS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH FACT THAT IT SUPPORTS PALESTINIAN LIBERATION

EFFORTS BUT DISTINGUISHES THESE FROM CRIMINAL OPERATION WHICH WAS CARRIED OUT IN SUDAN AND WHICH WAS DIRECTED AGAINST SUDANESE GOVERNMENT.

5. WHEAT (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

SUDAN PL-480 AGREEMENT SIGNED KHARTOUM MARCH 18 FOR \$2.2 MILLION OF WHEAT. THIS IS THIRD SIGNED AGREEMENT FOR BUREAU INCLUDING GUINEA AND ZAIRE. TUNISIA VEGOIL AGREEMENT FOR AUGMENTED 30,000 MT STILL IN NEGOTIATION. ROSS INFORMED EL GOULLI AND WE NOTIFIED EMBASSY TUNIS MARCH 15 THAT NO WHEAT AVAILABLE FOR FY 73 GIVEN TUNISIA'S AMPLE STOCKS AND SCARCITY US WHEAT.

6. NAMIBIA (CONFIDENTIAL)

INDICATIONS ARE THAT ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA WILL BE COMPOSED ALMOST ENTIRELY OF MEN KNOWN TO SUPPORT SAG HOMELANDS POLICIES, AND IT THUS APPEARS TO BE CREATURE OF SAG. UN LEGAL COUNSEL STAVROPOULOS, WHO CONDUCTING CONTACTS WITH SOUTH AFRICANS ON BEHALF OF SYG FOLLOWING DEATH OF CHACKO, IS DISAPPOINTED WITH PROGRESS OF TALKS AND DOUBTFUL SUFFICIENT GROUNDS EXIST TO ENABLE SYG TO RECOMMEND THAT SECURITY COUNCIL EXTEND AUTHORIZATION FOR CONTACTS.

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7. MADAGASCAR (CONFIDENTIAL)

INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION MADAGASCAR BECOMING INCREASINGLY TENSE. IN ADDITION COTIER DISSATISFACTION WITH RAMANANTSOA GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY REPORTS ATMOSPHERE TANANARIVE INCREASINGLY EDGY AS MARCH 29, ANNIVERSARY

OF 1947 REBELLION, APPROACHES. GOMR INSISTS FRENCH NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE CONCLUDED BY THAT DATE. END OF NEGOTIATIONS EXPECTED TO BRING END TO TRUCE WHICH VARIOUS ELEMENTS HAVE BEEN APPLYING. TENSION IN TANANARIVE HEIGHTENED BY SHORTAGES RICE AND WHEAT. EMBASSY REPORTS THAT FACTIONS CAUSING TROUBLE TANANARIVE ARE BASICALLY PRO- ANARCHY, ANTI- FRENCH AND ANTI- COTIER. EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE SITUATION HAS REACHED ALARMING STAGE, BUT IS RELUCTANT TO PREDICT THAT PRESENT GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO CONTAIN RISING DISSENSION, PARTICULARLY IF GOVERNMENT IS UNABLE TURN OUTCOME PARIS TALKS INTO GREAT NATIONALIST VICTORY. WHILE MILITARY WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE PUTTING DOWN REBELLION AGAINST PRESENT REGIME, THERE IS SERIOUS QUESTION WHETHER IT, OR EVEN GENERAL RAMANANTSOA FOR THAT MATTER, WOULD HAVE HEART FOR SUCH OPERATION.

ROGERS

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